

Civil War Proclamations

Excerpts from newspapers and other sources

From the files of the Lincoln Financial Foundation Collection ANOTHER PROCLAMATION BY THE PRESIDENT.

By the President of the United State of America.

A PROCLAMATION.

WHEREAS an insurrection against the Government of the United States has broken out in the States of South Carolina, Georgia, Alabama, Florida, Mississippi, Louisiana, and Texas, and the laws of the United States for the collection of the revenue earnot be effectually executed therein conformably to that provision of the Constitution which requires duties to be uniform throughout the United States:

And whereas a combination of persons, engaged in such insurrection, have threatened to grant pretended letters of marque to authorize the bearers thereof to commit assaults on the lives, vessels, and property of good citizens of the country lawfully engaged in commerce on the high seas, and in waters of the United States:

And whereas an Executive Proclamation has been already issued, requiring the persons engaged in these disorderly proceedings to desist therefrom, calling out a militia force for the purpose of repressing the same, and convening Congress in extraordinary session to deliberate and determine thereon:

Now, therefore, I, ABRAHAM LINCOLN, President of the United States, with a view to the same purposes before mentioned, and to the protection of till public peace, and the lives and property of quiet au, orderly citizens pursuing their lawful occupations, until Congress shall have assembled and deliberated on the said unlawful proceedings, or until the same shall have ceased, have further deemed it advisable to set on foot a blockade of the ports within the States aforesaid, in pursuance of the laws of the United States and of the law of nations in such case provided. For this purpose a competent force will be posted so as to prevent entrance and exit of vessels from the ports aforesaid. If, therefore, with a view to violate such blockade, a vessel shall approach, or shall attempt to leave any of the said ports, she will be duly warned by the Commander of one of the blockading vessels, who will endorse on her register the faet and date of such warning, and if the same vessel shall again attempt to enter or leave the blockaded port, she will be captured and sent to the nearest convenient port, for such proceedings against her and her eargo as prize as may be deemed advisable.

And I hereby proclaim and declare that if any person, under the protended authority of the said States, or under any other pretence, shall molest a vessel of the United States, or the persons or cargo on board of her, such person will be held amenable to the laws of the United States for the prevention and punishment of piracy.

In with as whereof, I have hereunto set my hand, and caused the soal of the United States to be affixed.

Done at the City of Washington, this nineteenth day of April, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and sixty-one, and of the Independence of the United States the eighty fifth.

ABRAHAM LINCOLN.

By the President:

WILLIAM H. SEWARD, Secretary of State.

THE VOICE OF THE PRESS.

THE VOICE OF THE PRESS.

We received, at a late hour yesterday evening, the Proclamation of the President of the United States. As this important document gives a new phase to the probable issues of the momentous crisis which has been precipitated upon the country by the rash act of South Carolina in inaugurating the disunlon movement, and as the lateness of the hour at which we received it forbids any extended remark, we must reserve until tomorrow the deliberate consideration which such a paper is entitled to receive. At present we have only to express our satisfaction that the President does not contemplate any definitive policy which shall not have the approval of the people, as represented in Congress, which for this purpose is summoned to meet in extraordinary session on the ensuing Fourth of July. We are sure that the whole country will approve the step thus taken by President Lincoln in calling to his aid at this critical juncture the counsel and cooperation of the People's Representatives. [National Intelligencer, 16th.

The Baltimore Patriot says-

All party and political distinctions must be effaced. All such petty matters fade out before the great question as twinkling stars fade out before the rising sun. There can be but two sets of men among ustbose who are for the Union and those who are government of the United States, and who are for the government of the United States, and who are for the government of the United States, and who are for the government of the United States, and who are for the government of the United States, and who are for the government of the United States will are for the maintenance of that Union which Washington founded, defended and left as a sacred legacy to his countrymen; and we shall know who are for breaking it up and succumbing to a tyranny of a political party in armed rebellion against the laws of the land. political party in armed rebellion against the laws of the land. "The Federal Government," said Andrew Jackson, it must and shall be preserved.

The Bath (Me.) Times, a Democratic journal, thus

The day has gone by when the name of a party should have any charm. No longer should paltry party issues have a moment's weight. Our national edifice is on fire—set on fire by base incendiaries—and it is no time to quibble about the peculiar quality of the combustible materials which have been used in kindling the fiames. Mightler questions claim our attention. We should know only our country—lits rights and its dangers; our flag and the principles of which it stands as the glorious emblem. Disregarding all party affiliations, all past issues, all questions of who has done most right or who has committed most wrong, we point to the present position of President Lincoln, at the present critical juncture, and we do it with a swelling heart, and from the depths of that heart thank him for the firmness with which he proposes to vindicate his country's integrity and honor. God grant him wisdom and all needful aid. The prayers of all good people be with him; and palsied be the hand and motionless the tongue that shall attempt to embarrass his efforts so long as he shall firmly, and with discretion and prudence, continue to upbold the honor of our flag.

FROM WASHINGTON.

Proclamation by the President.

Washington, April 19. The President has issued a proclamation, stating that an insurrection against the Government of the United States has broken out in the States of South Carolina, Georgia, Alabama, Florida, Mississippi, Louisiana, and Texas, and the laws of the United States cannot he executed effectually therein, conformably to that provision of the Constitution which requires duties to be uniform throughout the United States; and further, a combination of persons engaged in such insurrection have threatened to grant pretended letters of marque to authorize the bearers thereof to commit assaults on the lives, vessels and property of the good citizens of the country lawfully engaged in commerce on the high seas, and in the waters of the United Str 44.

Str 68.

And whereas (the President says) an executive And whereas (the President says) an executive proclamation has already been issued requiring the persons engaged in these disorderly proceedings to desist, and therefore calling out the militia force for the purpose of repressing the same; and convening Congress in extraordinary session to deliberate and determine thereon; the President, with a view to the same purposes before mentioned, and for the protection of the public peace and the lives and property of orderly citizens pursuing their lawful occupations, until Congress shall have assembled and deliberated on said unlawful proceedings, or until the same shall have ceased,—has further deemed it advisable to set on foot a blockade of the ports within the States aforesald, in pursuance of the laws of the United States and the laws of nations in such cases provided.

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For this purpose a competent force will be posted o as to prevent the entrance and exit of vessels from the ports aforesald. If, therefore, with a view to violate such blockade, any vessel shall attempt to leave any of the said ports, she will be duly warned by the commander of one of the blockading vessels, who will endorse on her register the fact and date of such warning, and if the same vessel shall again attempt to enter or leave a blockaded port, she will be captured and sent to the nearest convenient port, for such proceedings against her and her cargo as may be deemed advisable.

PROCLAMATION BY THE MAYOR OF WASHING-

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PROCLAMATION BY THE MAYOR OF WASHING-TON.

The Mayor has issued a proclamation exhorting all good clitzens to so conduct themselves as neither by word or deed to give occasion for a breach of the peace. He says the presence of large bodies of troops, though it gives the city au unaccustomed aspect, in no manner supersedes or interrupts the regular and orderly administration of the municipal government.

The Massachusetts troops arrived this evening, and are quartered in the Capitoi. Several of them were wounded in Baltimore and sent to the infirmary, while others who were injured in that city are on duty with their comrades.

Additional District forces were mustered today. Four steamers in the line between Washington and Acquia Creek have been seized by order of the Government, under the apprehension that they were to be used for secession purposes, and they are now held by troops.

The President has received official notice of the secession of Virginia.

In Virginia loud threats to lynch Union men are heard everywhere.

Borba Transcer : 1 .

The Coming Conflict.

In reply to the declaration of war made by the Southern Confederacy upon the Federal Government in its bombard:nent of Fort Sumpter, while in possession of the Federal troops, the President of the United States has issued the following important proclamation:

By the President of the United States:

A Proclamation.

Whereas, Tho laws of the United States have been for some time past and now are opposed, and the execution thereof obstructed, in the States of South Carolina, Georgia, Alabama, Florida, Mississippi, Lonisiana and Texas, by combinations too powerful to be suppressed by the ordinary course of judicial proceedings, or by the powers vested in the Marshals by law

Now, therefore, I, Abraham Lincoln, President of the United States, in virtue of the power in me vested by the Constitution and the laws, have thought fit

F states of the to call forth, and hereby do call ! combinations, Union, to the agrogato number of he and to cause the laws to he duly e. ~, amongh the War Depart-Immediately communicated to the State auc.

I appeal to all loyal citizens to favor, facilitate and aid this effort to maintain the bonor, the integrity and the existence of our National Union and the perpetuity of our popular Government, and to redress wrongs already long enough endured.

I deem it proper to say that the first service assigned to the ferce hereby called forth will probably be to repossess the forts, places and property which have been seized from the Union, and in every event the utmost care will be observed, consistently with the objects aforesaid, to avoid any devastation, any destruction of, or interference with property, or any disturbance of peaceful citizens in any part of the country; and I hereby command the persons composing the combinations aforesaid to disperse and retire peaceably to their respective ahodes within twenty days from this date.

Deeming that the present condition of public affairs presents an extraordinary occasion, I do, hereby, in virtue of the power in me vested by the Constitution, conveno both Houses of Congress. The Senators and Representatives are therefore summoned to assemble at their respective chambers at twelve o'cleck, noon, on Thursday, the fourth day of July next, then and there to consider and determine such measures as, in their wisdom, the public safety and interest may seem to demand.

In witness whereof, I have hereunto set my hand, and caused the seal of the

United States to be affixed. Done at the City of Washington, this fifteenth day of April, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight handred and sixty-one, and of the independence of the United States the eighty-fifth.

ABRAHAM LINCOLN.

WILLIAM II. SEWARD, Secretary of State.

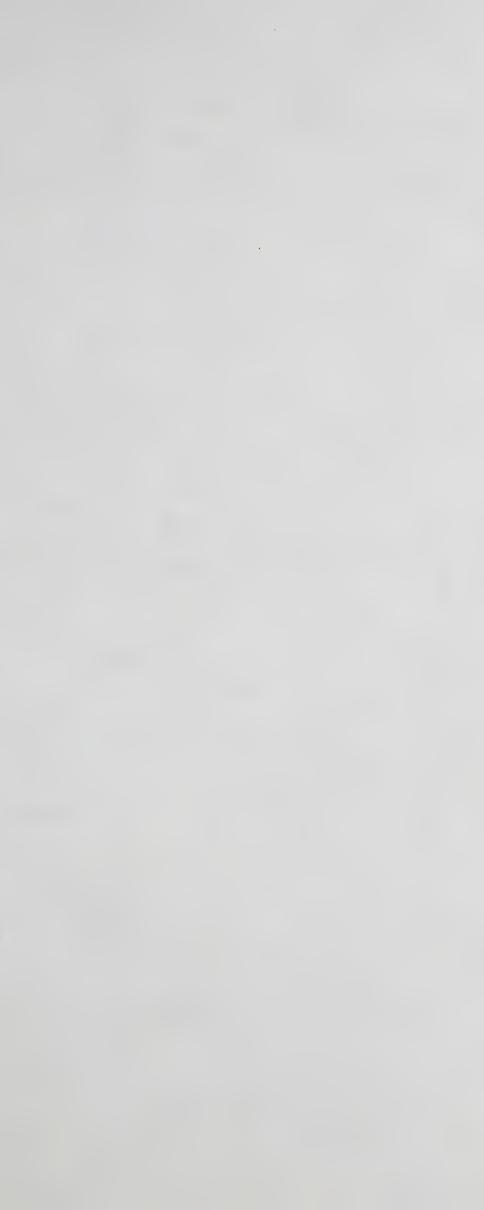
The Secretary of War, in accordance with the President's proelamation, has issued a eall for seventy-four regiments, to be apportioned among the States in the following manner:

Maine, 1; New Hampshire, 1; Massachusetts, 2; Connecticut, 1; New Jersey, 4; Delaware, 1; Missouri, 4; Indiana, 6; Miehigan, 1; Minnesota, 1; Kentueky, 4; Vermont, 1; Rhode Island, 1; New York, 17; Pennsylvania, 16; Tennessee, 2; Ohio, 3; Illinois, 6; Iowa, 1; Wisconsin, 1. California, Maryland, Virginia, North Carolina, Kansas and Oregon have not yet been ealled upon, nor any of the States not named above.

The State of New York has responded promptly. The Legislature has authorized the arming and equipping of 30,000 men, and have voted \$3,000,000 for such service. The war spirit seems to be thoroughly roused, and offers of immense sums of money and vast numbers of recruits pour in from all quarters. A few days will determine the position of Virginia and the other at present neutral States, when the strength of the contending parties will be defined.

A terrible and imminent danger overhangs our great and beloved country, and we look around in vain in the hope of finding some peaceful solution of the difficulties which surround us. God forbid that their solution should be left to the sword's point and the roar of the eannon!

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HARPER'S WEEKLY.

SATURDAY, APRIL 27, 1861.

By the President of the United States:

A PROCLAMATION.

Whereas, The laws of the United States have been for some time past and now are opposed, and the execution thereof obstructed, in the States of South Carolina, Georgia, Alabama, Florida, Mississippi, Louisiana, and Texas, by combinations too powerful to be suppressed by the ordinary course of judicial proceedings, or by the powers vested in the Marshals by law:

Now, therefore, I, ABRAHAM LINCOLN, President of the United States, in virtue of the power in me vested by the Constitution and the laws, have thought fit to call forth, and hereby do call forth, the Militia of the several States of the Union, to the aggregate number of 75,000, in order to suppress said combinations, and to eause the laws to be duly executed. The details for this object will be immediately communicated to the State authorities through the War Department.

I appeal to all loyal eitizens to favor, facili-

tate, and aid this effort to maintain the honor, the integrity, and the existence of our National Union and the perpetuity of popular government, and to redress wrongs already long enough endured.

I deem it proper to say that the first service assigned to the force hereby ealled forth will probably be to repossess the forts, places, and property which have been seized from the Union, and, in every event, the utmost eare will be observed, consistently with the objects aforesaid, to avoid any devastation, any destruction of, or interference with property, or any disturbance of peaceful citizens in any part of the country; and I hereby command the persons composing the combinations aforesaid to disperse and retire peaceably to their respective abodes within twenty days from this date.

Deeming that the present condition of public affairs presents an extraordinary occasion, I do, hereby, in virtue of the power in me vested by the Constitution, convene both Houses of Congress. The Senators and Representatives are therefore summoned to assemble at their respective chambers at twelve o'clock, noon, on Thursday, the fourth day of July next, then and there to consider and determine such measures as, in their wisdom, the public safety and interest may seem to demand.

In witness whereof, I have hereunto set my hand, and eaused the seal of the United States to be affixed.

Done at the City of Washington, this fifteenth day of April, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and sixty-one, and of the independence of the United States the eighty-fifth. ABRAHAM LINCOLN.

BY THE PRESIDENT WILLIAM H. SEWARD, Secretary of State.

THE WAR.

WAR is declared. President Lincoln's proclamation, which we publish above, is an absolute proclamation of war against the Gulf States. The die is now east, and men must take their sides, and hold to them. No one who knows any thing of the Southern people supposes for a moment that, having gone so far as to bombard a United States fort and capture it, they will now succumb without a fight. No one who has seen the recent manifestations of popular sentiment in the North can doubt that the Northern blood is up, and that they will listen no more to talk of compromise, truce, or treaty, until they are fairly beaten.

Let us then forbear puling, and look the situation in the face. There are some among us still who whine about the evils of eivil war. These are they who, with a burglar in their house, his hand on the throat of their wife or daughter, would quote texts on the loveliness of Christian forbearance and charity. Nobody -outside of lunatic asylums-doubts that civil war is an enormous calamity. On this point all are agreed. But as it has actually begun, and exists, what is the use of deprecating it? What should we think of a doctor who, summoned to visit a half-dying patient, should wring his hands hopelessly and bewail the ma-

lignancy of disease?

The United States Government has called into the field 75,000 militiamen, who, added to the regular force, will swell the effective army to nearly 90,000 men. It is understood that further ealls are to be made upon the States, to the extent of 200,000 more. The plan, as understood by military officers, is to form three camps: one at the Federal capital, consisting of 50,000 men, who will constitute an army of observation on the Border States, and will be commanded by Lieutenaut-General Scott in person; another of 75,000 men, which will be located in the vicinity of Cincinnati, with a view to an ultimate movement down the Mississippi; and a third, of over 100,000 men, which will be situated in the suburbs of New York. Rumor asserts that General Wool will command the New York army, and General Sumner the army on the Mississippi; but of these matters of eourse nothing is known. In the mean time, the navy will be occupied in closing the ports of the seceded States. It seems to be expected that by August next there will not be a port in South Carolina, Georgia, Florida, Alabama, Mississippi, Louisiana, and Texas, which will not be hermetically sealed by United States ships of war.

This is the Government programme. On the other hand, the Seceders are gathering soldiers vigorously on their side. It is stated that at the siege of Sumter over 7000 men were engaged, and that, simultaneously, 5000 were on duty opposite Fort Pickens. Letters from Montgomery say that 32,000 additional men are being mustered for an attack on Washington. As the population of the eight seeded States, exclusive of negroes, is over 2,000,000, it should be possible for Mr. Davis to collect 100,000 able-bodied troops on one point. With such a force, secretly if not openly favored by the Border States, a very formidable movement might

be made on Washington,

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A Proclamation by the President.

Washington, May 3. Whereas: Existing exigencies demand immediate and adequate measures for the protection of the National Constitution and preservatien of the National Union, by the suppression of the insurrectionary combinations now existing in several States, for opposing the laws of the Union and obstructing the execution thereof, to which end a military force in addition to that called forth by my proclamation of the 15th day of April in the present year, appears to be indespensably necessary. Now, therefore, I, Abraham Lincoln, President of the United States and Commander-in-Chief of the Army and Navy thereof and the militia of the several Statos when called into actual service, do hereby call into the service of the United States 42,034 volunteers to serve for a period of three years unless sooner discharged, and to be mustered into service as infantry and cavalry. The proportions of each arm and the details of enrollment and organization will be made known through the Department of War, and I also direct that the regular army of the United States be increased by the addition of eight regiments of infantry, one regiment of cavalry and one regiment of artillery, making altogether a maximum aggregate increase of 22,714 officers and enlisted men, the details of which will also be made known through the Department of War.;

And I further direct the enlishment for not lsss than one nor more than shree years of 18,-000 seamen in addition to the present force for the naval service of the United States. The details of the enlistment and organization will be made known through the Department of the

Navv.

The call for volunteers hereby made and the direction for the increase of the regular army and for the culistment of seamen hereby given together with the plan of organization adopted for the volunteers and for the regular forces hereby anthorized will be submitted to Congress as soon as assembled. In the meantime I earnestly invoke tho co-operation of all good citizens in the measures hereby adopted for the effectual suppression of unlawful violence, for the impartial enforcement of constitutional laws and for the speediest possible restoration of peace and order, and with those of happiness and presperity throughout our country.

In testimony whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the seal of the United States to be affixed. Done at the city of Washington this the 3d day of May, in the year of our Lord 1861, and of the Independence of the

United States the 85th.

(Signed.)

ABRAHAM LINCOLN.

By the President, WM. H. SEWARD, Sec'y of State.

BY TELEGRAPH.

PROCLAMATION BY PRESIDENT LINCOLN.

THE STATES IN REBELLION.

COMMERCIAL INTERCOURSE PRO-HIBITED.

REBEL VESSELS AND MERCHANDISE TO BE CONFISCATED.

Washington, August 16.
Whereas, on the 15th day of April the President of the United States, in view of an insurrection against the Laws, Constitution and Government of the United States, which had broken out within the States of South Carolina, Georgia, Alabama, Florida, Mississippi, Louisiana and Texas, and in pursuance of the provisions of an act entitled "an act to provide for calling forth the militia to exceed the laws of the Union, suppress insurrection and repel invasions, and to repeal the act now in force for that purpose, approved February 28, 1795," did call forth the militia to suppress said insurrection and cause the laws of the Union to be duly executed, and the insurgents have failed to disperse by the time directed by the President, and whereas, such insurrection has since broken out and yet exists within the States of Virginia, North Carolina, Tennessee and Arkansas, and whereas, the insurgents in all the said States claim to act under the authority thereof, and such claim is not disclaimed or repudiated by persons exercising the functions of Government in each State or States, or in the part or parts thereof in which combinations exist, nor has such insurrection been suppressed by said States. Now, therefore, I. binations exist, nor has such insurrection been suppressed by said States. Now, therefore, I, Abraham Lincoln, President of the United States, in pursuance of an act of Congress of July 13, 1861, Abraham Lincoln, President of the United States, in pursuance of an act of Congress of July 13, 1861, do hereby declare that the inhabitants of said States of Georgia, South Carolina, Virginia, North Carolina, Tennessee, Alabama, Louisiana, Texas, Arkansas, Mississippi and Florida—except the inhabitants of that part of the State of Virginia lying west of the Alleghany Mountains, and such other parts of that State and other States hereinbefore named as may maintain a loyal adhesion to the Union and the Constitution, or may be from time to time occupied and controlled by forces engaged in the dispersion of said insurgents—are in a state of insurrection against the United States, and that all commercial intercourse between the same and the inhabitants thereof, with the exceptions aforesaid, and the citizens of other States and other parts of the United States is unlawful, and will remain unlawful until such insurrection shall cease, or has been suppressed; that all goods, chattels, wares and merchandize coming from any of the said States, with the exceptions aforesaid, into other parts of the United States, with the exceptions aforesaid, by land or water, together with the exceptions aforesaid, by land or water, together with the vessel or vehicle conveying the same, or conveying persons to or from said States, with said exceptions. Will be forfeited to the United States. with the vesser of venicle conveying the same, of conveying persons to or from said States, with said exceptions, will be forfeited to the United States, and that from and after 15 days from the issuing of this proclamation, all ships and vessels belonging in whole or in part to any eitizen or inhabitant of any of said States, with the said exceptions, found at sea or in any part of the United States, will be forfeited to the United States, and I hereby enjoin upon all district attorneys, marshals, and officers of the revenue, and of the military and naval forces of the United States, to be vigilant in the execution of said act, and in the enforcement of the penalties and forfeitures imposed or declared by it, leaving any party who may think himself aggrieved thereby to his application to the Sceretary of the Treasury for the remission of any penalty or forfeiture, which the said Sceretary is authorized by law to grant, if in his Judgment the special circumstances of any case shall require such remission. conveying persons to or from said States, with said

In witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand and caused the seal of the United States to be af-

Donc in the City of Washington, this 16th day of August, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and sixty one, and of the independence of the United States the eighty-sixth.

ABRAHAM LINCOLN.

By the President,
WM. H. SEWARD, Secretary of State.

PRESIDENT'S PROCLAMATION. By the President of the United States:

A PROCLAMATION.

Whereas, There appears in the public prints what purports to be a proclamation of Major Gen. Rupter, in the words and figures following:

Headquarters Department of the South, 4 Hillon Head, S. C., May 9, 1532.

The three States of Georgia, Florida and South Chrolina, comprising the Military Department of the Fouth having deliberately declared themselves no longer under the United States of America and having taken up arms against the United States, it becomes a military necessity to declare them under martial law.

This was accordingly done on the 25th cay of April, 1862. Slavery and martial law in a free country are altogether incompatible. The persons in the ic States—Georgia, Florida and South Carolina—heretorite held as

laves are therefore declared forever free.

[Official.]

Signed, DAVID HUNTER
Major General Communding.
Eb. W. Smith, Acting Assistant Adj't. Gen.

And, whereas, the same is producing some excitement and misnaderstanding, therefore I, Abraham Lincoln, President of the United States, proclaim and declare that the Government of the United States had no knowledge or belief of an intention on the part of General Hunter to issue such proclamation, nor has it yet any autnentic infimmation that the documents is genuine; and, further, that neither General Hunter or any other commander or person has been authorized by the Government of the United States to make proclamation declaring the slaves of any State free, and that the supposed proclamation now in question, whether genuine or false, is altogether void so far as respects such declaration. I further make known that, whether it be competent for me, a Commander-in-Chief of the Army and Navy, to declare the slaves of any State or States, free; and whether at any time, or in any case, it shall have become a necessity indispensable to the maintenance of the Government to examine such supposed power, are questions which, under my responsibility, I reserve to myself, and which I cannot feel justified in leaving to the decision of commanders in the field.

These are totally different questions from those of police regulations in armies in camps.

On the 6th day of March last, by a special message, I recommended to Congress the adoption of a joint resolution, to be substantially as follows:

Resolved, That the United States ought to co-operate with any State which may adopt a gradual aboushment of slavery, giving to such State carnest expression to compensate for its inconveniences, public and private, produced by such change of system

The resolution in the language above quoted was adopted by large majorities in both branches of Congress, and now stands an authentic definite and solemn proposal of the Nation to the States and people most interested in the subject matter. To the people of these States now, I mostly appeal. I do not argue—I beseech you to make the arguments for yourselves. You cannot if you would, be blind to the signs of the times.

I beg of you a calm and enlarged consideration of thom, ranging, it it may be, far above partisan and personal politics.

This proposal makes common cause for a common object, easting no repreaches upon

any. It acts not the Pharisee. The change it contemplates would come gently as the dews of Heaven, not rending or wrecking anything. Will you not ombrace it? So much good has been done by one effort in all past time, as in the Providence of God, it is now your high privilege to do. May the vast future not have to lament that you have neglected it.

In witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand and caused the seal of the United States to be hereunto affixed.

Done at the City of Washinoton this 19th day of May, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and sixty-two, and of the independence of the United States the eighty-sixth.

(Figued) ABRAHAM I INCOLN.

By the President,

W. H. SEWARD, Secretary of State.

PROCLAMATION BY THE PRESIDENT. Washington, 26th. The President has issued the following Proclamation:

In pursuance of the 6th section of the act of Congress, entitled an act to suppress insurrection, to punish treason, and to seize and confiscate the property of rebels and for other purposes, approved July 17, 1862, and which act and the joint resolution explanatory thereof are herewith published, I, Abraham Lincoln, President of the United States, do hereby proclaim and warn all persons within the contemplation of said 6th section to cease participating in, aiding, countenancing or abetting the existing rebellion, or any rebellion against the Government of the United States, and to return to their allegiance to the United States, on the pain of forfeitures and seizures as within and by said 6th section provided.

In testimony whereof I have hereunto set my hand and caused the seal of the United States to be affixed. Done at the city of Washington this 25th day of July, in the year of our Lord 1862, and of the independence of the United States the 87th.

(Signed)

ABRAHAM LINCOLN.

87th.

ABRAHAM LINCOLN. (Signed) By the President.
WILLIAM H. SEWARD, Secretary of State.

NEWS FROM WASHINGTON.

The Admission of West Vinginia as a State.

A PROCLAMATION

BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

Whereas, by the act of Congress approved the 31st day of December last, the State of West Virginia was declared to be one of the United States of America, and was admitted into the Union on an equal footing with the original States in all respects whatever, upon the condition that certain changes should be duly made in the proposed Constitution for that State;

And whereas, proof of a compliance with that condition, as required by the second section of the act aforesald, has been submitted to me;

Now, therefore, be it known, that I, ABRAHAM LINcon, President of the United States, do hereby, in pursuance of the act of Congress aforesaid, declare and proclaim that the said act shall take effect and be in force from and after sixty days from the date hereof.

In witness whereof, I have hereunto set my hand, and caused the seal of the United States to be affixed.

Done at the City of Washington, this twentieth day of April, in the year of our Lord one thousand

[L. S.] eight hundred and sixty-three, and of the Independence of the United States the eighty-seventh.

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seventh. ABRAHAM LIN

By the President:
WILLIAM II. SEWARD, Secretary of State.

OUR SPECIAL WASHINGTON DISPATCHES.

WASHINGTON, Tuesday. April 21.

THE PETERHOFF CASE BEFORE THE CABINET.

The Peterhoff case was up to-day in Cabinet meeting-full, with the exception of Mr. Chase. All the official documents were on the table. The impression derived from indications after the breaking up, was that the majority of the constitutional advisers were in favor of holding on to the vessel and opening her mail. There are precedents within the limits of this war to authorize the latter act.

THE CONTRABAND COMMISSION.

What is popularly called the "Contraband Commission" is in session here, composed of Dr. Howk of Boston, ROBERT DALE OWEN, and Col. ---. They are charged by the Prestdent to organize a comprehensive plan of taking care of the Africans whom this war shall free, and enlisting them as soldiers. A great deal of testimony has been carefully taken about the distribution of the contrabands to work, the labor to which they are best fitted, and their feeling toward the war and for active service. Their only hesitation to enlist appears to be the apprehension of being shot if captured, instead of being treated as prisoners of war. Notwithstanding this dissuasive, a negro regiment is in formation here, and enlistments into it are brisk. The attention of the President has been called to the difficulty arising from the rebei acts of Congress authorizing the killing of negroes taken in arms. It is probable that a proclamation wilt soon be issued that will have the effect of putling captured blacks on the footing of prisoners of war.

ARMY CORPS COMMANDERS.

By direction of the President, the following assignments of Army Corps Commanders are made: First Corps, Maj.-Gen. John F. Reynolds; Second Corps, Maj.-Gen. D. N. Couch; Third Corps, Maj.-Gen. D. E. Sicklee; Fifth Corps, Maj.-Gen. G. C. Mead; Sixth Corps, Maj.-Gen. John Sedgwick; Eleventh Corps, Maj.-Gen. C. C. Howard; Twelfth Corps, Maj.-Gen. H. W. Slocum; Cavalry Corps, Maj.-Gen. George Stoneman.

A VIRGINIA REFUGEE.

Mr. PARCOAST, a Virginia refugee, seventeen months in prison in Richmond, arrived yesterday, and gives an account of the lyranny and cruelty of a man well known in Washington,-BAXTER, formerly Attorney General. He practiced many years before the Court of Claims, and made much money out of the Government. Now he is Judge Advocate General of Virginia, before whom the Union prisoners are tried. His treatment of them is barbarous and oppressive in the extreme,

PAYING THE SOLDIERS.

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The Secretary of the Interior has decided that those who have heretofore acquired ianas comprising, in certain cases, precimption rights, are not thereby excluded from the privileges of the Homestead bill.

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Letters from Sulfolk show that the success on the Nansemond give us five Parott guns, one hundred and sixty ichel privates, and nine officers of the Fourth Alabama, at the cost of one killed and eleven wounded.

THE PRESIDENT AT THE OPERA.

Mr. and Mrs. Lincoln, Mme. BERGMANN, and Senator Summea attended the performance of "Dinorah" this evening.

ASSISTANT PROVOST-MARSHAL-GENERALS.

It has been decided to appoint Assistant Provost Marshal Generals in every State.

COMPTROLLER OF THE TREASURY.

Hon. Robert W. TAYLER, of Ohlo, nominated and confirmed at the last regular session of the Senate as Comptroller of the Treasury, succeeding Elisea WEITTLESLY, yesterday entered on the duties of his office.

RECOGNIZED

The President has recognized JOHANNES SEUMACHER as Consut for the Free Hunse City of Biemen, at Boston.

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The following deaths of soldiers were reported to-

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Henry Collins, Co. F, 118th New-York Volunteers,
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C. C. Smith, Cc. G, 40th Massachusetts.
Peter Weidman, Co. K, 37th Massachusetts.
Wm. Atwood, Co. C, 11th Rhode Island.

DISPATCHES TO THE ASSOCIATED PRESS. Washington, Tuesday, April 21.

THE NATIONAL BANKING ASSOCIATIONS.

The Treasury Department has for some days past been sending out the form of " preliminary certificate" in connection with National Banking Associations under the currency and banking law. This certificate requires the applicants to state the name and tille of the association; Its location, and where tts operations of discount and deposit are to be carried on; the amount of the capital stock; the name and residence of each of the sharcholders, with the number of shares held by each; and the time the business of the Association is to commence. .The certificate ls made in order that the subscribers may avail themselves of the advantages of the "act to provide a national currency; secondly, a pledge of United States stocks, and to provide for the circulation and redemption thereof," approved Feb. 25, 1853. The blanks will be filled so as to show the numerical order of the organization and the locality. For example, "The First National Banking Association of"; the second, &c. The applications are already numerous, embracing millions of dollars.

NEWS FROM WASHINGTON.

The Admission of West Virginia as a State.

A PROCLAMATION

BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

Whereas, by the act of Congress approved the 31st day of December last, the State of West Virginia was declared to be one of the United States of America, and was admitted into the Union on an equal footing with the original States in all respects whatever, upon the condition that certain changes should be duly made in the proposed Constitution for that State;

And whereas, proof of a compliance with that condition, as required by the second section of the act aforesaid, has been submitted to me;

Now, therefore, be it known, that I, ABRAHAM LINcon, President of the United States, do hereby, in pursuance of the act of Congress aforesald, declare and proclaim that the said act shall take effect and be in force from and after sixty days from the date hereof.

In witness whereof, I have hercunto set my hand, and caused the seal of the United States to be affixed.

Done at the City of Washington, this twentieth day of April, in the year of our Lord one thousand

[L. s.] eight hundred and sixty-three, and of the independence of the United States the eighty-seventh.

But the Precident: seventh. ABRAHAM LIT
By the President:
WILLIAM H. SEWARD, Secretary of State.

OUR SPECIAL WASHINGTON DISPATCHES.

Washinoton, Tuesday. April 21.

THE PETERHOFF CASE BEFORE THE CABINET.

The Peterhoff case was up to-day in Cabinet meetlng-full, with the exception of Mr. Chase. All the official documents were on the table. The impresslon derived from indications after the breaking up, was that the majority of the constitutional advisers were in favor of holding on to the vessel and opening her mail. There are precedents within the limits of this war to authorize the latter act.

THE CONTRABAND COMMISSION.

What is popularly called the "Contraband Commission" is in session here, composed of Dr. Howk of Boston, Robert Dale Owen, and Col. - They are charged by the President to organize a comprehensive plan of taking care of the Africans whom this war shall free, and enlisting them as soldiers. A great deal of testimony has been carefully taken about the distribution of the contrabands to work, the labor to which they are best fitted, and their feellng toward the war and for active service. Their only hesitation to enlist appears to be the apprehension of being shot if captured, instead of being treated as prisoners of war. Notwithstanding this dissuasive, a negro regiment is ln formation here, and enlistments into it are brisk. The attention of the President has been called to the difficulty arising from the rebel acts of Congress authorizing the killing of negroes taken in arms. It is probable that a proclamation will soon be issued that will have the effect of putting captured blacks on the footing of prisoners of war.

ARMY CORPS COMMANDERS.

By direction of the President, the following assignments of Army Corps Commanders are made: First Corps, Maj.-Gen. John F. Reynolds; Second Corps, Maj .- Gen. D. N. Couch; Third Corps, Maj .-Gen. D. E. Sickles; Fifth Corps, Maj.-Gen. G. C. Mead; Sixth Corps, Maj.-Gen. John Sedgwick; Eleventh Corps, Maj.-Gen. C. C. Howard; Twelfth Corps, Maj.-Gen. H. W. Slocum; Cavalry Corps, Maj.-Gen. George Stoneman.

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THE CONSCRIPTION LAW,

Important Proclamation by the President.

The Liability of Foreigners who Have Declared Their Intentions to Become Citizens.

No Plea of Alienage to be Received After Sixty-five Days.

Washington, May 8, 1863.

BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

A PROCLAMATION.

Whereas, The Congress of the United States, at its last session, enacted a law entitled "An act for enrolling and calling out the national forces, and for other purposes," which was approved on the 3d day of March last; and

Whereas, It is recited in the said act that there now exists in the United States an insurrection and rebellion against the authority thereof, and it is, under the Constitution of the United States, the duty of the Government to suppress insubordination and rebellion, to guarantee to each State a republican form of government, and to preserve the public tranquility; and

Whereas, For these high purposes, a military force is indispensable, to raise and support which all persons ought willingly to contribute; and

Whereas, No service can be more praiseworthy and honorable than that which is rendered; for the maintenance of the Constitution and the Union, and the consequent preservation of free government; and

Whereas. For the reasons thus recited tt was enacted by the said statute that all able-bodied male citizens of the United States, and persons of foreign birth who shall have declared on oath their threntions to become citizens under and in pursuance of the lawsthereof, between the ages of 20 and 45 years, with certain exemptions not necessary to be here mentioned, and declared to constitute the National forces, and shall be liable to perform military duty in the service of the United States, when called out by the President for that purpose; and

Whereas. It is claimed and in behalf of persons of foreign birth within the ages specified in said act, who have heretofore declared on oath their intentions to become citizens under and in pursuance of the laws of the United States, and who have not exercised the right of suffrage, or any other political franchise under the laws of the United States, or of any of the States thereof, are not absolutely precluded by their aforesaid declaration of intention, from renouncing thetr purpose to become citizens; and that, on the contrary, such persons, under treaties or the law of nations, retain a right to renounce that purpose, and to forego the privtlege of citizenship and residence within the United States, under the obligations imposed by the aforesaid act of Congress.

Now, therefore, to avoid all misapprehensions concerning the Itability of persons concerned to perform the service required by such enactment, and to give tt full effect, I do hereby order and proclaim that no plea of allenage will be received or allowed to exempt from the obligations imposed by the aforesaid act of Congress, any person of foreign birth who shall have declared on oath his intention to become a citizen of the United States under the laws thereof, and who shall be found within the United States at

rection and rebellton, at or after the expiration of the period of sixty-five days from the date of this proclamation; nor shall any such plea of alienage be allowed in favor of any such person who has so, as aforesaid, declared his intention to become a citizen of the United States, and shall have exercised at any time the right of suffrage, or any other political franchise within the United States, under the laws thereof, or under the laws of any of the several States. In witness whereof, I have hereunto set my seal, and caused the seal of the United States to be affixed. Done at the City of Washington, this 6th day of May,

In the year of our Lord 1863, and of the Independence of the United States the Eighty-seventh.

ABRAHAM LINCOLN.

By the Prestdent,

WM. H. SEWARD, Secretary of State.

Less of the Ship Cunada.
| Sr. Johns, N. F., Friday, May 8.

On the 3d inst., in lat. 47°, long. 48° 03', the brig Attilla boarded the iron ship Canada, found abandoned, with her forward comparisment full of water. The ship was unmanageable. Two boats were gone, It is supposed the crew left in them.

14 Times may 9,1563



OFFICIAL.

BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES.

A PROCLAMATION.

It has pleased Almighty God to hearken to the supplications and prayers of an afflicted people, and to vouchsafe the army and the navy of the United States, on the land and on the sea, victories so signal and so effective as to furnish reasonable grounds for augmented confidence that the Union of the States will maintained, their constitution preserved and their peace and prosperity permanently continued.

But the victories have been ed not without sacrifice and liberty, incurred by bractic and loyal citizens. L. affliction in every part of the country follows in the train of these fearful becavements. It is meet and right to recognize and confess the presence of the Almighty Father, and the power of His hand equally in these triumphs

and these sorrows.

Now, Therefore, be it known that I do set apart Thursday, the 6th day of August next to be observed as a day for national Thanksgiving, praise and prayer, and I invite the people of the United States to assemble on that occasiou in their customary places of worship, and in the forms approved by their own conscience, render the homage due to the Divine Majesty for the wonderful things he has done in the natiou's behalf, and invoke the influence of His Holy Spirit to subdue the anger which has produced and so long sustained a needless and cruel rebellion; to change the hearts of the insurgents, to guide the counsels of the government with wisdom adequate to so great a national emergency, and to visit with tender care and consolation throughout the length and breadth of our land all those who through the vicissitudes of marches, voyages, battles and sieges, have been brought to suffer in mind, body or estate and family, to lead the whole nation through paths of repentance and submission to the Divine will back the perfect enjoyment of Union and to fraternal peace.

In witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand and caused the seal of the United States to be affixed.

Done at the city of Washington, this 15th day of July, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and sixty-three, and of the Independence of the United States of America the eighty-eighth.

ABRAHAM LINCOLN.

· Carlo

By the President,
WILLIAM H. SEWARD,
Secretary of State.

STATE OF IOWA.

ADJUTANT GENERAL'S OFFICE, Davenport, July 14, 1863.

GENERAL ORDER NO. 118.

I. The 8th Iowa Cavalry will be organized at Davenport upon the removal of the 7th Iowa Cavalry from Camp Hendershott to the field.

II. The Camp of the 8th Iowa Cavalry will be near the old fair grounds on Duck Creek.

III. The camp of the 8th Iowa Cavalry will be known as "Camp Roberts."

By order of the Governor.

N. B. BAKER, Adjutant General of Iowa.

Lansing Union, Decorah Republic, Waterloo Courier, New Hampton Courier, Pocket City News, Elkader Journal, Mitchell Gazette, Charles City Intelligencer, Waverly Phænix, Cedar Falls Gazette, Independence Guardian, Delhi Journal and West Union Gazette eopy onee.

march 11, 1865

AMNESTY TO DESERTERS.

By the President of the United States of

A PROCLAMATION.

Whereas, the twenty-first section of the act of Congress, approved on the 3d inst., entitled "an act to amend the several acts heretofore passed to provide for enrolling and calling out the National forces, and for other purposes," requires that in addition to other lawful penalties of the crime of desertion from the military or naval service, all persons who have deserted from the military or naval service of the United States who shall not return to said service, or report themselves to a Provost Marshal, within sixty days after the proclamation hereinafter mentioned, shall be deemed and taken to have voluntarily relinquished and forfeited their rights to citizenship and rights to become citizens, and such deserters shall be forbecome citizens, and such deserters shall be for-ever incapable of holding any office of trust and profit under the United States, or of exercising any rights of citizens thereof.

any rights of citizens thereof.

And all persons who shall hereafter desert the military or naval service, and all persons who, being duly enrolled, shall depart the jurisdiction of the district in which he is enrolled, or go beyond the limits of the United States with intent to avoid any draft into the military or naval service duly ordered, shall be liable to the penaltics of this section. And the President is hereby authorized and required forthwith, on the passage of this act, to issue his proclamation, setting forth the provisions of the section, in which proclamation the President is requested to notify all deserters returning within sixty days as aforesaid, that they shall be pardoned on condition of returning to their regiments and companies, or to such other organizations as they may be assigned to until they shall have served for a period of time equal to their original term of enlistment.

to until they shall have served for a period of time equal to their original term of enlistmeht.

Now, therefore be it known, that I, Abraham Lincoln, President of the United States, do issue this, my proclamation, as required by said act, ordering and requiring all deserters to return to their proper posts. And I do hereby notify them that all deserters who shall within sixty days from the date of this proclamation, viz: On or before the 10th day of May, 1865, return to service or report themselves to a Provost-Marshal, shall be pardoned on condition that they return to their report themselves to a Provost-Marshal, shall be pardoned on condition that they return to their regiments and companies, or to such other organizations as they may be assigned to, and serve the remainder of their original terms of culistment, and in addition thereto a period equal to the time lost by desertion.

In testimony whereof I hercunto set my hand, and cause the seal of the United States to be affixed.

Done at the city of Washington, this 11th day of March, in the year of our Lord, 1865, and of the Independence of the United States the eighten the city of the United States and of the United States and of the United States and of the United States are since the city of the United States and of the United States are since the city of the United States and of the United States are since the city of the United States and of the United States are since the city of the United States and of the United States are since the city of the United States and of the United States are since the city of Washington, this 11th day of March, in the year of our Lord, 1865, and of the United States are since the city of Washington, the United States are since the city of Washington, and of the United States are since the city of Washington, and of the United States are since the city of Washington, and of the United States are since the city of Washington, and of the United States are since the city of Washington, and of the United States are since the city of Washington, and of the United States are since the city of Washington, and of the United States are since the city of Washington, and of the United States are since the city of Washington, and the College are since the city of Washington, and the College are since the city of Washington, and the College are since the city of Washington, and the College are since the city of Washington, and the College are since the city of Washington, and the College are since the city of Washington, and the College are since the city of Washington, and the College are since the city of Washington, and the College are since the city of Washington, and the College are since the city of Washington, and the College are since the city of Washington, and the College are since the city of Washington, and the College are since the city of Washington, and the College are since the city of Washington, and the College are since the city of Washington, and the College are since the city of Washington, ABRAHAM LINCOLN. ty-ninth.

By the President. WM. H. SEWARD, Sceretary of State.

3/11/00.

A Proclamation by the President of the United States. a / 111, 1865

Whereas, By my proclamation of the 19th and 27th of April, 1861, the ports of the United States in the States of Virginia North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia. Florida, Alabama, Mississippi, Louisiana and Texas were declared to be subject to blockade: but,

declared to be subject to blockade: but,
Whereas, The said blockade has, in consequence of actual raditary occupation by this
Government, tince been continually set aside
or relaxed in respect to the ports of Alexandria and Norfolk, in the State of Virginia; Beaufort, in the State of North Carolina; Pert Royal, in the State of South Carolina; Pensacola and Franklin, in the State of
Fiorida; and New Orleans. in the State of
Louisiana;

And whereas, By the 48th section of the Act of Congress, approved on the 18th of January, 1861, entitled "An act further to provide for the collection of duties on imports and for other purposes," the President, for the reasons therein set forth, is authorized to close certain

ports of entry:

Now, therefore, be it known, that I Abraham Lincoln, President of the United States, do hereby proclaim that the ports of Richmond, Tappahaunock, Yorktown and Petersburg, in Virginia; Elizabetalown, Plymouth, Washington, Newbern, Roanoke and Wilmington, in North Carolina; Char stoo, Georgeton, in North Carolina; Chart 2003, Georgetown and Beaufort, in South Carolina; Savannah, St. Mary's, Brunswich and Darien, in
Georgia; of Mobile, in Alabama; of Pearl
River, Sculdaboro, Natchez and Vicksburg, in
Mississippi; of St. Augustine, West Mary's,
Pert Leon, St. John's, Jacksonville and Apalatchicola, in Florida; of Teche and Franklin,
in Longiston; of Gibbeston, Errogos de Nanin Louisiana; of Galveston, Brazos de Bantiago, Point Isabel and Brownsville, ia Texas, are hereby closed, and all right of importation to the ports aforesaid will cease, until they shall have again been opened by order of the President, and if, while the said ports are closed, any ship or vessel from beyond the United States, or having on board any articles subject to duties, shall attempt to enter any such port, the same, together with its tackle, apparel, furniture and cargo, shall be forfeited to the United States.

In witness whereof I have herewith set my hand and caused the seal of the United States to be affixed. Dene at the city of Washington, this 11th day of April, in the year of our Lord, one thousand, eight hundred and sixty-five; and of the Independence of the United States of America the eighty-ninth. (Signed)

ABRAHAM LINCOLN. WM. H. SEWARD, Secretary of State.

AMERICAN BLOCK

Lincoln's Proclamation of Blockade Model for Allies in Attempt to Starve Foe

Precedents Established Under Its Operation Appear Broadly to Justify Present British Measures-Doctrine of Continuous Voyage Dates Back to Colonial Days.

When President Lincoln, on April 19, 1861, issued a proclamation deciaring a blockade of certain Southern ports that act in stself, it is now held in international law. entitled and gave to the South the status of a belligerent. Copies of President Lincoln's blockade reached London on the evening of May 2. On May 18 the Queen's proclamation of neutrality was issued.

This blockade, which originally included the States of South Carolina, Georgia, Alabama, Florida, Misslssippi, Louisiana and Texas, was extended by later proclamations until the entire coast from Cape Henry to the Rio Grande was under patrol of federal vessels of war. Without the aid of this blockade it is doubtful if the armies of the Union could have succeeded in destroying the Confederacy. The supplies which were essential to the maintenance of the Confederate armies had to be pursteamships. To make more effective the chased for the most part abroad. The blookade of the South the limits established by international law were in some tles. To be sure, makeshifts were resorted to in many instances, as in the matter of tion taken by the United States in the powder works and gun shops, but even civil war is an iniportant basis for some the precarious situation regarding muni- of the practices in vogue to-day by the tions may be appreciated from the fact that General Albert Sydney Johnston's The two ports in the Confederacy which attack on Grant's forces at Shiloh was were used largely by blockade runners timed largely on the arrival of powder were Charleston and Wilmington. Towwhich was run in through the Wlimington was

President Lincoln's proclamation of the Confederacy to fall. The elbiockade was in fact a declaration of war Wilmington was in direct railway on the sea. At the outset the federal gov-munication with Richmond, and at the enernment undertook to warn vessels that trances to the Cape Fear River, on which they ran danger of capture if they attempted to enter or leave a blockaded strongest defence works in the South. port. This beneficent act of warning did not continue long. Although its provisions At times no less than fifty Union ships were not actually repealed, it did not take of war were stationed off the entrances long, under the stress of conflict, before to the Cape Fear. There were two entrances that the stress of conflict, before to the Cape Fear. date of President Lincoln's order.

Making Blockade Effective.

"Jpon the effectiveness of the blockade Espended the ability of the North to conquer the South through attrition. So long es the Southern arms could be deprived of sources of supply the end would be only a question of time. To strike back at the North the South had recourse to privateers and commerce destroyers, and while the Armies of the South were being slowly decimated the commerce of the North was heing swept from the seas by vessels like the Sumter, the Florida, the Alabama and the Shenandoah.

Perhaps in no one feature was more bitterness engendered in the great struggle than that which arose over the block-To the South it meant defeat sure and certain to be entirely cut off from the outside world. To avoid this fate every ruse was resorted to, and desperate chances were taken to run the blockade. In the early stages of the war the blockade runners made trips to and from blockaded ports with the regularity almost of mail rases closely infringed upon, and, as in the case of continuous voyages, the ac-British in the enforcement of the blockade against Germany.

imed largely on the arrival of powder and the end of the war Wilmington only was used. All other ports were controlled by the military forces of the North. Wilmington was the last port of the Confederacy to fall. The city of

Close Guard Along Coast.

long, under the stress of conflict, before trances, one by the western channel, vessels were being warned only after being which passed in close by Fort Caswell, made prizes. Because of the important in-and the other by New Iniet, which passed ternational consequences devolving upon a in under the guns of Fort Fisher. In the proclamation of blockade, the British gov-later period of the blockade the Union ships were divided into an inshore squadernment, for one, chose to date the begin-roll and an offshore force. The former along of the civil war from April 19, the were arranged so the smaller or light ning of the civil war from April 19, the were arranged so the smaller or light draught eraft took station close in to the bar, while a second line pressed close upon overcome the evidence of such intention; the light draught vessels, and a divisional

ship cruised along the entire front. All ships kept under way after darkness set in and until sunrise.

The offshere force consisted of several fast vessels of first rate seagoing qualities, which took up positions about seventy miles from the entrances to Cape Fear. As blockaders generally ran out in the middle of the night, or early morning, they might be expected to show up under a ten to eleven knot speed at distances around seventy miles off shore, say, about daylight in the winter time, and very frequently a blockade runner which had succeeded in eluding the cordon of war ships at the bar discovered at daylight that an enemy vessel on the horizon promised a long daylight chase, with no certainty as to the outcome.

The Wilmlngton bar did not afford during the civil war period a depth of more than twelve feet at spring tides. More often the depth on the bar was a scant eleven feet. In order to negotiate the Wilmington bar light draft steamships had to be employed, and many craft of high speed but of light scantling construction were turned out in British ports to run the blockade. These vessels had just sufficient bunker capacity to enable them to make the runs between Bermuda and the Confederate ports or from Nassau to the same ports.

Runners Used Nassau Port.

Nassau was the favorite place of clearonce with a cargo of merchandise for the Confederacy. From Bermuda to Wilmington the distance is approximately 675 miles between Nassau and Cape Fear the distance is about 625 miles. Because of the character of the southern bars it was not practicable to load out of a British port direct for the South. Craft which would pass over the Cape Fcar entrances had to be long, narrow and light draft, meant small tonnage, and every pound of coal carried in the bunkers reduced by that much the cargo carrying

capacity.

Obviously the thing to do was to send merchandise to those neutral ports nearset to the Confederacy, utilize in ac doing sailing ships in order to economize in freight rates, accumulate as much merchandise as one pleased in the neutral port, and then run it to Wilmington in such quantities and at such times as expediency dictated. It was the following out of this practice that led the United States to assert the principle of continuous voyage, a principle which the British first proclaimed through Lord Stowell and which arose in reference to Coionial trade with the mother country carried on by neutrals. The English courts condemned such trade, and in order to evade the rule neutrals early in the nineteenth century, and especially American captains, undertook to stop at a neutral port, and there, after seeming to pay duties or even going so far as to unload and reload eargoes, carried them to the mother country of the

The motive for this was that if the goods in question were bonafide imports from the neutral country the transaction was a regular one. The British courts held that if an original intention could be proved of carrying the goods from the colony to the mother country the proceedings in the neutral territory, even if they amounted to landing goods and paying duties, could not

the voyage was really a continued one artfully interrupted, and the penaltles of law had to take effect. Evidence, therefore, of original intention and destination was the turning point in such cases.

Having in mind the British contention as above indicated, the United States proceeded to put into effect the continuous voyage principle with reference to the running into Bermuda and Nassau on neutral ships of goods destined for the Confederacy, and one of the first cases to come up was that of the Springbok. This case was disposed of before the New York District Prize Court. The Springbok was a British salling vessel. She was chartered and loaded by English merchants and sailed from London on December 2, 1862, bound for Nassau, in the Bahamas. Nassau was then, as now, a British colony.

Following Springbok Case.

The Springbok carried a general carge consisting of Manchester goods, haberdashery, groceries, drugs, stationery, &c. The total value of the cargo was approximately \$330,000. Of this, about \$3,000 worth was declared by the prize court as contraband goods. On February 3, 1863, the Springbok while on her course for Nassau, and being then about one hundred and fifty miles from that port, was seized without any search by the United States cruiser Sonoma. The vessel and the entire cargo were summarily condemned as good prize of war by the New York District Prize Court. Upon appeal the Supreme Court of the United States restored the vessel on the ground that a neutral port was its bona fide destination, but that court condemned the entire cargo.

When one considers that the British are to-day taking in to Kirkwali ncutral vessels for examination when such vessels are bound to the neutral ports of Sweden, Norway, Holland or Denmark and are examining cargoes for the purpose of determining if the ultimate destination is not the enemy country, it will be seen that, after all, there is very little difference involved as between such action and American practice in the civil war. In fairness, it should be said, however, that the British when holding cargoes are undertaking to offer compensation to the owners. This is something we did not do in the case of the Springbok. The entire cargo was declared prize. The Supreme Court held that while the voyage as to the Springbok ended at Nassau, it was continuous as to the cargo.

In the Peterhoff case the principle of continuous voyage, the very thing which is proving so irksome to American merchants because of its exercise to-day by the British navy, was pushed even further by the United States than in the Springbok affair. The Peterhoff was an English merchant craft loaded in London for Matamoros, a neutral Mexican port. The Peterhoff was captured en route to Matamoros by the United States cruiser Vanderbilt on the suspicion that the destination of the former craft was one of the blockaded Texan ports. The case was tried by the New York District Prize Court and on August 1, 1863, that court held that the Peterhoff was good prize.

Seizure of the Peterhoff.

The seizure of the Peterhoff was not followed by any protests from the British government, Lord Russell's answer to the owners of the seized ship showing that the British were not disposed to disavow the theory of continuous voyage as laid down by the United States federal courts./ The Declaration of Paris, to which the British were signers, authorized the blockade of waters adjoining the place blockaded. Here we find that under the theory of continuous voyage the same validity is assigned to fictitious as to effective blockades. An anomalous position was assumed by the United States, which hitherto had vindicated the fredom of enemy goods when under neutral flags.

isted of landing goods at the Rio Grande, lightering the same up to Matamoros, thence transporting up the river on the Mexican side to some point where a convenient crossing could be made into Confederate territory. The commander of the Vanderbilt when he setzed the Peterhoff was morally certain that her cargo was destined for the Confederacy and, as noted, the United States District Prize Court sustained him.

In taking American ships into Klrk-wall the British have all the strength of the Peterhoff case to fall back on, to say nothing of the Springbok. The strength of their case is all the more apparent when it is recognized that no protest was made over the Peterhoff seizure.

The Emily St. Pierre, captured by the United States blockading fleet in 1862, was sent North under a prize crew. She carried with her the greater part of her old crew. The Confederacy raked the ship, recaptured her and made Liverpool. The United States claimed the vessel on the ground that the rescue was fraudulent and an act of violence against a lawful cruiser. An identical case occurred in 1800, only that Great Britain made the claim, and the United States rebutted it, on the very grounds on which the British based their contention in 1862. The Emily St. Pierre was not returned to the United States. There can be no doubt, as one authority on international law has declared, that the American government was right in 1800 and wrong in 1862, and the English government wrong in 1800 and right in 1862.

LINCOLN'S PROCLAMATION OF 1863 ON EMIGRANTS AND THE DRAFT

[31] LINCOLN, ABRAHAM. BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA. A PROCLAMATION. Washington, May 8, 1863. Folio. Small repair to margin of integral leaf, with slight discoloration to the leaf bearing Lincoln's proclamation.

This is Circular No. 36 of the Department of State, dated at Washington, May 9, 1863, not addressed. We fail to trace the sale of a copy in the history of American Book-Prices Current.

The proclamation clarifies the status of "persons of foreign birth," who had declared on oath their intention to become citizens but who had not exercised the right of suffrage or any other political rights.

The proclamation, in essence, says they are subject to the draft; but gives them sixty-five days to leave the United States if they wish.

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BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

V PROCLAMATION.

What was the bogus proclamation that appeared during the war?

It was a proclamation purporting to be iseued by President Lincoln, dated May 17, 1864, appointing May 26 as a day of fasting and calling for 400,000 men for the Federal armies. It was published on Wednesday, May 18, 1864, by the Journal of Commerce and the World in New York. The Herald printed a few thousand copies, when it learned that the Times considered it fraudulent; it stopped its presses, altered its "make-up" and destroyed the copies printed. The Tribune office was closed when the messenger came with the fraudulent copy, and the Sun had gone to press. The editors of the Journal of Commerce and the World were arrested on Wednesday and the newspaper offices were closed by the military. The editors were released by order of President Lincoln early on Thursday morning, and later in the day Joseph Howard, Jr., was arrested and confessed that he had prepared the proclamation. He said that it was a stock jobbing operation. Who was behind him he not come out even yet. Howard was sent fort Lafayette on Friday, May 20, and on 21st the two newspaper offices were restor to their editors, whose papers reappear Monday, May 23.

